



# **Revised August 2016**

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# **General Information 2016-2017**

A Message from the Head of School

When considering the educational opportunities for children, many parents are unaware of the importance of the spiritual side of academic development. No school and no teacher teaches in a vacuum.

The beliefs, values, morals, and worldview of a teacher are shared anytime instruction is given, whether

the teacher realizes this conveyance or not.

God expects children to be taught truth in EVERY subject. This requires teachers to teach from a biblical

worldview. When God is excluded from instruction in a subject, we are teaching children that it is acceptable and safe to exclude God from some areas of life. No matter how rigorous the academics and no

matter how high the scores, if God is excluded from the subject we have missed the mark for excellence.

Along those same lines, if a school provides chapel and prayer and Bible classes but does not inform the

students of God through rigorous academic subjects, then Christian education has not taken place.

What makes TCS different from other educational institutions is how we approach the academic subjects

through the lens of Scripture, through God's absolute truths, and through His meta-narrative of creation,

fall, and redemption.

In man's eyes, TCS is successful because of our high percentage of students who have high standardized

test scores and who are accepted to a college or university. But to us, true success comes when we partner with parents and see children prepared for life, for leading their families, for being thoughtful leaders in

the community, and all from God's perspective.

We hope you discover Trinity Christian School to be a place where your children learn truth in EVERY

subject and experience.

Thank you and GO WARRIORS!

Ron Fellers, Ed.D., M.B.A.

Ron Fellers

TCS President and Head of School

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#### **Introduction & Intent of Handbook**

Welcome to Trinity Christian School (TCS) — the place where academic excellence and Christianity merge while developing the individual gifts of each student, spiritually, academically, physically, and socially. TCS, without apology, proclaims that Jesus Christ is Lord. He alone is the way of salvation. We also believe the Bible to be the inspired, infallible Word of God, and as such, it is the standard for our day-to-day lives. A curriculum that acknowledges and honors God, teachers who are dedicated to the Lord and this ministry, and many people who pray are what makes our school distinctively Christian.

TCS offers high academic and distinctively Christian standards in order to help each student reach his or her God-given potential. TCS strives toward a high standard of behavior. The underlying philosophy of Trinity boldly strives to equip the student through sound biblical principles, an aggressive academic program, practical leadership skills, and a variety of Christlike activities.

Our curriculum is designed for traditional classroom teaching. It is the intent of TCS to help the student develop proper habits of study with a planned and varied program.

The questions concerning moral issues will not be sidestepped. Developing Christian values is vital if young people are to grow into godly leaders. In each grade level, therefore, the moral issues of matters are discussed along with the subject itself. Education is of little value if the student is morally ignorant. Dress codes, personal habits, and leisure-time activities are part of the overall program in developing Christian character through moral and spiritual training. Our goal is not only to provide a strong academic program but also to teach students how to live to the glory of God. (I Corinthians 3: IO) We are striving to teach young people to become the salt of the earth. It is our hope that in whatever direction the Lord leads your child in his/her future; he/she will be able to effectively live for Christ.

This handbook has been prepared in order that you may know and better understand our school system, and it provides a standard of behavior for every family/student attending TCS. We recognize that this handbook is silent on some issues that may arise. In the event of differences of interpretation, TCS administration will render decisions that are fair and in the best interest of both the student and the school.

The rules of conduct are not intended to produce a group of stereotyped individuals, and it is fully recognized that spiritual growth is never the result of superimposed rules. Some of the regulations and practices are necessary for the smooth and efficient operation of the school. Others are guidelines to Christian conduct, the building of character, the forming of good habits, and the rounding of our student's education.

Please accept this handbook in the spirit in which it is intended. While teachers and administrators are charged with the responsibility of enforcing rules, students/families with legitimate and appropriately phrased questions may seek interpretations from the proper sources. The administration stands ready to discuss specific problems or to offer assistance in any way.

# 2016-2017 TCS School Calendar



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Calendar Legend	Important days to	remember	Trinity	<b>Christian Schools</b>
- Staff Development Day	August 15th	Warrior Welcome Back	3107 Tri	nity Boulevard
- Holidays	August 17th	First day for students	Texarka	na, AR 71854
- Early Dismissal	September 1st	Curriculum Night	Phone:	870-779-1009
<ul> <li>Early Dismissal         Parent/Teacher Conference     </li> </ul>	November 21st-25th December 19th - 30th	Thanksgiving Break Christmas Break	Fax:	870-772-1258
- First Day of Quarter	March 20th-24th	Spring Break	Web:	www.trinitywarriors.org
<ul> <li>Last Day of Quarter</li> </ul>	May 26th Inclement Weather Da	Last day for students v: February 20th	E-mail:	tcs@trinitywarriors.org



# **Admissions 2016-2017**

#### **TCS Admissions Philosophy**

The objective of the admissions procedure is to identify and to admit those students who should be enrolled in TCS. TCS exists to assist Christian families in equipping their student to develop their individual gifts, academically, spiritually, physically, and socially, and to do so in a manner that brings glory to God. In harmony with our purpose of assisting Christian families with the education and nurture of their children, TCS desires that families carefully consider its mission before seeking enrollment.

Admission for currently enrolled students is secured for the upcoming school year until the published registration date. Following the published date, all student applications are considered in the order received by TCS. It is the responsibility of the currently enrolled family to obtain registration information. Currently enrolled families complete and return all requirements to the Admission Office for registration. All requirements must be met by the due dates set forth by TCS in order for a student to attend school.

Admission to TCS is an application process for families new to TCS. Registration is an online process. Please go to <a href="www.trinitywarriors.org/howtoapply">www.trinitywarriors.org/howtoapply</a>. After the family has completed this step, an appointment is scheduled for them to meet with the administration. Shortly after the administration interview, TCS will notify the applicant of the student's admission status. The administration interview is for newly applying families, though TCS reserves the right to interview returning families.

TCS admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all of the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

Parents of students must understand the mission of TCS. One parent, preferably both, must be a born-again Christian living under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, participating in active fellowship, being disciples in a Bible believing church, and growing spiritually which is evidenced by regular church attendance and involvement in ministry. Furthermore, both parents must attend the admissions interview conducted by the TCS Administration.

Students who have had prior discipline problems at another school, who are married, or who are parents are not eligible for enrollment or attendance at TCS.

# **Application Requirements**

#### Students K5-8th

- K5 applicant must be five by September 1.
- At least one parent of applicant must be a Christian and actively involved in a local church.
- Birth certificate, immunization records and child custody papers, if applicable are required.
- 1st-8th applicant must provide a report card and achievement test results for the previous two years and for the current year. TCS will request these records from the current school.
- Applicant must have a satisfactory conduct record.
- Admission test may be required; TCS cannot remediate for more than a six month reading deficit.
- Parents and student must interview with administration.

#### Students 9th-12th

- Applicant must have accepted Jesus Christ as personal Savior; and come from a home where at least one parent of applicant is a Christian and actively involved in a local Bible-believing church.
- Along with their parents, applicant is actively involved in a local Bible-believing church who supports the Trinity Christian High School statement of faith.
- Applicant must provide a report card and achievement test results for the previous two years and for the current year. Trinity Christian will request these records from the current school.
- Applicant must have a satisfactory conduct record.
- Birth certificate, immunization records and child custody papers, if applicable are required.
- Applicant must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 for the most current school term, with no failing marks.
- Applicant should desire to attend Trinity Christian High School and willing to comply with the school standards as stated in the handbook.
- Admission test may be required; TCS cannot remediate for more than a six month reading deficit.
- Parents and student must interview with administration.

#### **New Students**

All new students are accepted on a trial basis for the first grading period, and the school reserves the right to transfer students to the grade level at which they are actually performing. New or returning students who do not begin within the first two weeks of school will need to take a readiness test to determine grade placement at the time he/she desires to begin attending. The student will be enrolled in the appropriate grade depending on space availability. The school also reserves the right to release any student, preschool through 12th grade, for poor conduct or performance.

Upon acceptance, the family will finalize financial arrangements according to the selected payment option on the financial agreement. These final arrangements are made in the Financial Office. All requirements must be met by the due dates set forth by TCS in order for a student to attend TCS.

# **Financial Agreement**

All families must agree to the Financial Agreement when enrolling their child to Trinity Christian School. The following is a copy of the Financial Agreement as stated in the enrollment and re-enrollment process and signed electronically.

**Registration Fee.** All <u>registration fees</u> are NON-REFUNDABLE & NON-TRANSFERABLE unless the school is unable to accept the student. The registration fee is non-refundable even if the child has not been formally accepted as a student unless the school has been given specific notice that it is unable to accept the student. After the registration fees are paid, if the application is withdrawn by us as the parents/guardians of the child for any reason, we understand that this fee is not refundable or transferable. Provided that we should be required by our employer to transfer from the Texarkana area, the school does agree to refund our application fee only if the applicable school year has not yet started.

The only other reason an application fee would be refunded to us is that the School System is unable to accept our child as a student due to the results of the records' review or for disciplinary reasons, family applied for, but did not receive tuition assistance and financially cannot enroll, or for any reason given by the School System, and we understand that the School System has the complete discretion to refuse or accept our child as a student. It is understood by us that the filing of this application with the School System is used by the School System to determine the number of teachers necessary within the School System and determine the commitment of other financial resources to assure that our child will receive a proper education. For <u>current</u> families, the registration fee is billed in February and the student automatically re-enrolled for the following school year. The registration fee for <u>current</u> families is due by February 10th. If the February 10th deadline is not met, the student's reservation will be canceled to make room for those on waiting lists. Current families paying registration after February 10th incur a \$50 late registration fee.

**Books.** Hardbound textbooks are the property of TCS and must be returned at the end of each course's term. Consumable workbooks belong to the student.

**Sample Agreement.** We agree to pay the tuition for the appropriate grade using the tuition schedule, which is attached to this application and made a part hereof as is set out fully in this application, and we desire to use the following payment plan. If the child attends any portion of the semester, the entire tuition charge for that semester is due. Should we be required to leave the Texarkana area due to employment, we understand that we are responsible for tuition through the withdrawal date, excluding the first tuition payment (confirmation from employer will be required). The first tuition payment is due by June 10th. This amount is nonrefundable and nontransferable should the student cancel enrollment for any reason. If the June 10th deadline is not met, the student's reservation will be canceled to make room for those on waiting lists. All payments are due by the 10th of each month.

As stated in the school board policy, families with delinquent accounts will not receive report cards, transcripts, or diploma (in the case of a graduating senior) until all financial obligations to Trinity Christian School are paid in full. All payments are due by the 10th of the month. If payments are not received by the due date, a late fee will be assessed. Any family whose tuition account falls two months in arrears and has not made alternative arrangements will not be allowed to continue in school until the account is brought current. If a family falls two months in arrears a second time in one school year, the remaining tuition becomes due in full immediately in order for the student to continue, and the family will not be allowed to make monthly payments the following school year but must pay by semester at a minimum. Families with delinquent accounts for the prior school year will not be allowed to register until the accounts are brought current.

TCS emails billing statements to the email address designated on the admissions application. If no email address is provided, billing statements will be sent via the USPS to the physical address listed on the admissions application.

We agree in the event of delinquency or default that the parent/guardian will pay the costs incurred by Trinity Christian School to collect the funds due pursuant to this agreement, including reasonable attorney's fees, all court costs, and interest at the legal rate until paid in full. Families with returned checks may be charged a \$25 service charge. Families who have two checks returned will no longer be able to pay by check, only cash or money order.



# Student Attendance Arrival Procedures 2016-2017

#### **General Philosophy of Attendance**

As per our Mission, we come alongside parents in the education of their children. Each school day, we serve in loco parentis — "in place of a parent." In order to have all students accounted for throughout the school day, we require each student to fully obey all rules of attendance. Parents need to enforce a strong family standard for school attendance that aids their child's academic success. A good attendance record supports a positive attitude toward school; excellent attendance is a foundation for academic excellence. Students are also expected to keep up with schoolwork during absences.

# **State Compulsory Attendance Law**

Act 2 of 1991 Amended by the State of Arkansas' 82<sup>nd</sup> General Session:

"Every parent, guardian, or other person residing within the state of Arkansas having custody or charge of any child age five through seventeen years on or before September 15<sup>th</sup> of that year shall enroll and send the child to a public, private, or parochial school, or provide a home school for the child, as described in 6-15-501 et. Seq., with the following exceptions: Any child who has received a high school diploma or its equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education is not subject to this attendance requirement".

#### **School Hours**

Students will be admitted to their classes at the first morning bell. Students are to be dropped off at TCS no earlier than 7:30 am. Students in 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> must leave within 15 minutes after school dismissal. TCS will not be held responsible for students who are dropped off before 7:30 am or on campus after 15 minutes of their dismissal. K5-6<sup>th</sup> grade students that have not been picked-up will be taken to extended care. No student is allowed to be on campus without adult supervision.

# **Absences Due to School-Sponsored Activities**

Students who miss class due to athletics, clubs/organizations, or sponsored-school events are NOT charged with a class absence; instead, their attendance record will reflect that they were out of class on a school activity (SA) or athletic event (SP).

# **Reporting Absences to TCS**

TCS desires to instill the value of good attendance and promptness in students; therefore, regular attendance and punctuality are required of every student. In the event of an unavoidable absence, the parent is asked to phone/email the school office by 8:30 am on the day of the absence. Parents should contact the school office in writing with the date and reason of the absence so that it may be determined whether it is excused. Whenever possible, documentation from doctors and appointments should be turned into the office.

# **Prearranged Absences**

Students are responsible for getting a Student Absence Request Form from ParentsWeb or the SSO for any pre-arranged absence. The absence form must list the student's complete schedule, include a parent's signature, and the reason for the pre-arranged absence. A pre-arranged absence form must be presented at least three days before the absence occurs. The principal has the final discretion on approving/denying the request. No pre-arranged absences will be granted during finals unless approved by administration.

# **College-Day Absences (for juniors & seniors only)**

Students must follow the same procedure as for a pre-arranged absence. Seniors will be allowed four prearranged College Days per school year. Juniors will be allowed two prearranged College Days per school year. Students must submit a College Day form signed by a representative of the college visited upon return to school.

### **Making-Up Missed School Work**

In the event a student is absent (whether it be unexcused, excused, prearranged, or school event), all missed work is still required and in the allowable time [one day for each day missed, or teacher discretion]. Assignments for the day may be obtained online through ParentsWeb. Parents may call the school office to make arrangements for any materials needed for schoolwork for that day. This material will be available in the school office after the last period of the day.

#### **Excessive Absences**

All absences count towards the maximum number of allowable days missed [10 days per semester]. Students who miss a total of eleven days per semester may have to repeat the class. Students who miss a total of twenty-two days for the entire year may fail that grade. In the event that a student goes over the allowable number of days, credit may be denied. Parents and students may go through an appeals process in which they meet with an attendance committee.

When a student reaches five days absence in any class during a single semester, an automated email for excessive absences will be sent to the parent. A doctor's note will be needed for any student who is in jeopardy of failing the semester/year due to excessive absences. If a student is under the ongoing care of a physician, a doctor's note must be in the student's file stating the illness and duration of care.

#### **Attendance Probation**

Students may be placed on attendance probation due to excessive absences and/or tardies. When placed on attendance probation, appropriate corrective actions will be taken to improve attendance. The following are some examples:

- Sign-in on a daily basis.
- Arrive at a designated time.
- Provide official documentation for ANY absence (doctor's note).
- Students may not be allowed to attend extracurricular events during school hours.

# **Parent Early-Sign-Out Policy**

A request to have a student excused early from class must be sent with the student the morning of the dismissal (or earlier). The time and reason for leaving should be included. The parent or authorized person must report to the designated school entrance and sign the student out. The office will notify the teacher to release the student. Due to security, parents are not allowed to go directly to the classroom to pick-up their child. Please attempt to schedule medical and dental appointments outside of regular school hours if possible.

#### **General Philosophy of Tardiness**

Attendance and punctuality are important to a healthy classroom experience, as well as to minimize distraction to the rest of the class. Three unexcused tardies to any class will equal an unexcused absence. Students who have a total of eleven absences for a class per semester may have to repeat the class. Excessive tardies may result in attendance probation.

#### **Grade-Level Tardy Policies**

#### Junior Kindergarten (PreK 4).

• While tardiness is not counted on student records for junior kindergarten (pre-k4), the same procedure for entry into the Warrior Building must be followed for arrival after 8:00 am.

#### **Grades K5-6th**

- After three late arrivals per quarter... If a student arrives on campus any time past the 8:00 am tardy bell, for any reason, the parent shall accompany the student to the main school office to pick up a Class Admission Slip. The student will not be allowed in class without the Class Admission Slip.
- After six late arrivals per quarter... parents may be required to conference with an administrator.

#### Grades 7-12

- Students will be admitted to their first period classes at the first morning bell at 7:50 am.
- Students not in their classrooms by 8:00 am will be marked with an unexcused tardy.
- Students with a note or a parent's phone call may receive an excused tardy.
- Students missing over 15 min of class time are marked absent. If a parent contacts the school, the student is marked with an excused absence; otherwise, they are given an unexcused absence.
- Students found loitering (on or off property) will be considered truant.

#### **Excessive Tardiness Grades 7-12**

A student with THREE unexcused tardies in a QUARTER (for all his/her classes) is given a disciplinary consequence as listed in the table below. Disciplinary consequences are described in greater detail in the Student Discipline section of this Handbook.

3 1 Early-Morning Detention (7-7:30 am) 4 2 Early-Morning Detentions (7-7:30 am) 5 1 Saturday-School Detention (8:00-11:00 am) Mandatory student-parent-principal meeting. 6 2 Days of ISS 7 2 Days of OSS Mandatory student-parent-principal meeting.	# Unexcused Tardies	Disciplinary Consequence
1 Saturday-School Detention (8:00-11:00 am) Mandatory student-parent-principal meeting.  2 Days of ISS  2 Days of OSS	3	1 Early-Morning Detention (7-7:30 am)
Mandatory student-parent-principal meeting.  6 2 Days of ISS  2 Days of OSS	4	2 Early-Morning Detentions (7-7:30 am)
7 2 Days of OSS	5	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	6	2 Days of ISS
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	7	2 Days of OSS  Mandatory student-parent-principal meeting.

Additional offenses may result in possible expulsion from TCS, as we would consider the student's lack of adherence to this policy to be more symptomatic of rebellion than forgetfulness or immaturity.

We understand that unexpected delays will arise occasionally, and tardies will occur from time to time. In the case of bad road conditions due to inclement weather or unexpected traffic delays, students will be given an excused tardy - which will not be counted against him/her.

# **Morning Arrival**

Entrance to the buildings will be locked promptly at 8:00 am. Allowing our entrances to remain unlocked for latecomers presents a security issue for all students on campus. We want to avoid those problems and encourage families to make every effort to be on time to allow their child to be seated in class by 8:00 when the tardy bell rings.

Please note: students in grades 3-12 must enter the main school entrance, travel down a long hallway, up the stairs, go to their locker, and down other hallways to their classroom before 8:00 am. Therefore, they need to arrive on campus by 7:50 am in order to be in their seats and ready for class promptly at 8:00 am. Arrival past 7:50 am will not allow them adequate time to avoid being tardy.

#### **Arrival/Dismissal Procedures & Entrances**

#### Preschool (K2-K3)

- Parents are to park and turn off their vehicle and walk their students in through the Preschool entrance.
- Please do not leave children unattended in vehicles.
- For supervision and safety reasons, no other students are to be dropped off at this entrance.

#### Warrior Building (K4-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade)

 All K4-2nd grade students will be dropped off in front of the Warrior Building and enter through the double doors.

- To pick-up students, parents are to form two lines outside the Warrior Building.
- The line closest to the Warrior building is for all K4 students so that parents can sign them in/out.
- The second line is for all K5, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders.
- Parents who also have students at the main school building may pull through the parking lot and enter appropriate lines.

#### Main-School Building (3<sup>rd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

- All 3rd-12th grade students will enter the school through the Main School Entrance near the gym.
- Any students arriving after 8:00 am must buzz in through the main office.
- Parents may not drop off students at the preschool entrance.
- Athletes may enter and exit through the west gym doors when unlocked.
- Pick-up of all 3rd-12th grade students will begin at the crosswalk.
- For supervision and safety reasons, parking is not permitted in spaces immediately in front of the main building, the gym, or preschool playground during pickup times.
- Students are not to exit through the preschool wing.
- Students in grades 7th 12th must leave the campus within 15 minutes after school.

#### **Extended Care**

Extended care is available for K-6<sup>th</sup> beginning fifteen minutes after dismissal until 5:30 pm. Those students who have not been picked up within fifteen minutes after dismissal will be taken to extended care. Extended care fees are billed monthly and are due the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.

# **Student Driving/Parking**

All students are required to enter and exit the school parking lot from the church entrance on Trinity Blvd. All student vehicles should be parked on the West side of the main school parking lot. Students should never drive across the crosswalk between the main building and the Warrior building from  $7:30 \, \text{am} - 4:00 \, \text{pm}$ . Students may not leave campus at any time without proper permission. Students may not sit in vehicles before or after school or go to their vehicle between classes. Any violation of these policies may result in the student losing driving privileges and/or suspension.

# **Emergency School Closings**

Our Emergency Plan provides for response to all types of emergencies. Depending on the circumstances of the emergency, we will use one of the following protective actions in regard to school evacuations, closures, or modified operation:

**Immediate evacuation.** Students are evacuated to a safe area on the grounds of the facility in the event of a fire, etc... Our first place of evacuation would be to the baseball field area. Our second option, if necessary, would be to evacuate to the area near the maintenance shop.

**In-house sheltering.** Sudden occurrences, weather or hazardous materials related, may dictate that taking cover inside the building is the best immediate response. If this is the case, we will evacuate to the Worship Center located in the middle-area of our facility.

**Evacuation of Premises.** Complete evacuation of our facility may become necessary if there is a danger to our area. In this case, we are prepared to evacuate students to alternate locations as warranted. If we are directed to evacuate to the west, students will relocate to the backside of Trinity Heights Subdivision, which is adjacent to the fire station on Trinity Blvd. If we are directed to evacuate to the north, students will relocate to the parking area of Pearson Eye Institute on Sugar Hill Rd. If we are directed by emergency services to evacuate to the east or to the south, they will inform us of where we will be relocated.

**Modified Operation.** Modified operation may include cancellations, postponement, or rescheduling of normal activities. These actions are normally taken in the event of a winter storm, facility issues, or utility disruptions.

**Dismissal procedures.** Dismissal procedures during an emergency will be handled by administration once a dismissal station has been put in place.

Information regarding school evacuations, modified operations, or closings will be announced on the radio stations KKYR, KOOL, as well as television stations, KSLA, KTLA, and KTBS. We will also contact by email, if possible. Our relocation destination will be posted on the front door of the main school entrance in the event we were to be evacuated. We ask that parents not call our main school phone number during an emergency. The school will contact or advise you by radio, television, email, or phone.



# Health/Medical Policies 2016-2017

#### **Medication**

- A Medication Administration Release Form (MARF) <u>must be signed</u> before any prescription or scheduled medication will be given at school. A separate consent form is required for each prescription or scheduled medication to be administered at school.
- Over-the-counter medication, not scheduled by a physician, provided by TCS (including, but not limited to: Advil, Tylenol, Benadryl, Tums, or the generic equivalent) may be administered by TCS with a parent or guardian's written consent located on the TCS School Health Information Form.
- All medication (over-the-counter and prescription) must be kept in the nurse's office. All medication should be brought to the nurse's office between 7:30 AM and 8:00 AM. All scheduled or prescription medication must be in the original container and labeled with the child's name. NO OUTDATED MEDICATIONS OR CONTAINERS WILL BE PERMITTED. Any student possessing medication (over-the-counter or prescription) is subject to disciplinary actions.
- The first dose of any new prescription medication must be given at home.
- No prescription or scheduled medication to be given three (3) times a day or less will be administered at school unless specified by a physician.
- Permission of long-term medication must be renewed at the beginning of each year.
- If necessary, the nurse is authorized to delegate administration of medication to another staff member.

#### Illness

Parents will be notified and children will be sent home when any one or combination of the following symptoms is noted:

- Oral temperature reads 100 or greater
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Rash
- Conjunctivitis ("pink eye")
- Suspected communicable illness (List of Exclusion and Readmission Criteria for Specific Communicable Diseases is posted on the TCS website.)
- Injury or illness requiring a physician's evaluation
- Head lice or nits
- Ringworm

If a child is sent home or stays home from school with any of the illnesses listed above, the child may not return to school until all applicable guidelines are met:

- FEVER FREE WITHOUT THE USE OF FEVER REDUCING MEDICATION FOR 24 HOURS
- Without nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea for 24 hours
- Evaluated or treated by a medical professional, and are able to present an excuse.

# **Medical Emergency**

- In the event of a major medical emergency, parents or authorized persons will be contacted immediately. In the event a parent or authorized person cannot be contacted, school officials are to take whatever action is deemed necessary, in their judgment, for the health of a child. The school shall not be financially responsible for the emergency care and/or transportation of a child.
- In the case of a minor medical event (including, but not limited to, the following: minor cuts, scratches, scrapes, minor falls, bruises, insect bites, etc..), first aid will be provided as deemed necessary for the wellbeing of a child. A parent or guardian will be notified by phone call or note, at the discretion of the staff.

#### **Medical Information**

- Immunizations
  - Each child must have a current record of all immunizations, or current exemption, on file with TCS.
  - O Parents will be notified when immunizations are due. Proof of immunization must be returned to the school nurse within one month of notification. Failure to comply may result in dismissal from school.
- Physician and Emergency Contact Information
  - O Each child must have a current Primary Care Physician (PCP), PCP phone number, PCP address, name and number of individual to contact in the case of an emergency, and authorization to treat on file with TCS. Parents must immediately notify the school of any changes that have been made.



# **Student Dress Code 2016-2017**

#### **General Philosophy of TCS Dress Code**

TCS requires standardized dress. Our approach to the TCS dress code is to try to create that balance where students feel they have the freedom to express their individual tastes while learning to walk in love toward others and our Savior. To work within this balance, our dress and presentation:

- Should not be offensive to one another and to God;
- Should not result in causing others to envy or stumble; and,
- Should not be done as to draw unnecessary attention to oneself.

We understand it is "just a dress code," meaning the way we dress and present ourselves is not the be-all-and-end-all measurement of our spiritual maturity or of the depth of our faith. However, we also understand that learning to be a disciple of Jesus Christ is a process that includes learning to walk in love, obedience, and humility. This is why we ask for the full cooperation of students, parents, and teachers in maintaining the standards of the dress code. Please ask Administration if you are unsure of a particular item before purchasing. Infractions of the standardized dress code are addressed in the disciplinary policies.

#### **Standardized Dress**

The dress code applies at school or any TCS school function unless otherwise directed by Administration. Clothing must be modest and not tight fitting. We understand that there may be differences in the opinion as to what is considered "tight fitting." Administration, inasmuch as we are able, will lean toward the side of grace; however, in the event that clothes are deemed immodest, too small, or too tight, we reserve the right to send a student home. Final discretion of any policy lies with the Administration of TCS.

Extreme fads will not be allowed. We will not specifically identify each and every fad because they change from year to year. However, it must be understood that hair, clothes, or jewelry styles that are clearly identified with certain segments of the culture may not be within the standards of appearance we desire to promote at TCS.

Dress code is subject to change as circumstances arise, and we will do our best to communicate those changes effectively and in a timely manner to both the parents and students.

#### **Shoes**

Shoes should be clean and appropriate for their purposes (such as for PE, recess, and other activities), and should not be distracting.

- Flip-flops are not permitted. Flip-flops are considered any shoe or sandal without a backstrap on it.
- Shoes/sneakers with rollers are not permitted.

#### **Seasonal Coats & Jackets**

Heavy winter coats and outdoor jackets may be of any color or design but may not be worn inside the building (they may be stored in the classroom for elementary students and lockers for junior high and high school students).

#### Outerwear

Students may wear one of the following options inside the building at any time. If a student chooses to take off the outwear while in school, they must have an appropriate shirt underneath (as described below).

- The TCS hoodie or any TCS FanCloth light warm-up pullovers or jackets.
- Any solid colored light sportswear or fleece that has a full length zipper. Logos must be less than a half-dollar in size.

#### **Shirts**

New for the 2016-2017 school year! Students may wear TCS shirts (see below) every day of the week and on field trips (unless otherwise indicated).

- Important! The only TCS shirts that are allowed to be worn daily are those that were newly introduced in the 2015-2016 school year.
- These shirts were navy blue, orange, or gray; they were either short- or long-sleeved; and they had our TCS motto on the back.
- These same shirts will be available for purchase prior to and throughout the school year.

Students may also wear shirts/blouses other than their TCS shirts.

- Non-TCS shirts/blouses must have a collar, and may be short- or long-sleeved. No sleeveless shirts are allowed.
- The style may be button-up or polo type. Button-up shirts are allowed to have only the top two buttons undone.
- Any color or pattern is acceptable, as long as it is not a distraction or designed in such a way that it draws unnecessary attention to the person wearing it.
- All logos should be no larger than the size of a half-dollar, and there should be no writing or additional graphics on the shirt or blouse.
- All undershirts or camisole tops must be a solid color.
- Shirts/blouses with sheer or lace panels will not be allowed.
- Midsection and cleavage should be covered.

On Fridays, students may wear <u>any</u> TCS shirt, any shirt purchased for a TCS event (such as an athletic event, kickball tournament, or homecoming), or any TCS shirt purchased through FanCloth, as sold through the TCS athletic department. These t-shirts should be in good condition (no fading, stretching, or tears) and without any handwriting. Official TCS athletic uniforms and warm-ups are not to be worn during the school day.

#### Slacks, Jeans, Shorts, and Skirts

New for the 2016-2017 school year! Students may wear the TCS uniform athletic pants every day of the week and on field trips (unless otherwise indicated).

• Important! The only athletic style pants that can be worn outside of PE class are the specific TCS uniform athletic pants.

#### Students may also wear slacks, jeans, shorts, or skirts.

- Jeans, carpenter pants, and cargo pants may be worn.
- Allowable colors are navy blue, khaki, gray, and black.
- Attire may not be frayed or cut on the bottoms. No holes or extreme fading, fraying, or thinned areas anywhere on the pant/short/skirt will be allowed.
- Shorts and skirts must be no more than 4" above the crease in the back of the knee. Leggings may only be worn with shorts/skirts of the approved length.
- Students are not required to wear belts as long as their pants are not falling down or dragging on the floor. Boxers/underwear should not be visible above the waistline.

#### Miscellaneous

<ul> <li>Jewelry and accessories should be modest; ne</li> </ul>	either excessive or distracting.
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- O Girls may wear up to two earrings per ear.
- O Boys may not wear earrings.
- No body piercings (including nose rings).
- Makeup should be modest; neither excessive or distracting.
  - O Boys may not wear makeup or nail polish.
- No tattoos (including hand-drawn with markers).
- Hair must be neatly groomed, and extreme hairstyles (unnatural coloring, spikes, mohawks, etc.) are not permitted.
  - O Boys: the length should not completely cover the ear or touch the collar or eyebrow, and sideburns may not extend below the earlobe.
  - O Boys should be clean-shaven; and if they are not, they must purchase a disposable razor for \$1 from the SSO and shave immediately (or be sent home).
- Hats, bandanas, and sunglasses are not to be worn inside the building. Hoodies are also not to be pulled over the head while inside the building.

# **Consequences for Dress Code Violations**

Consequences for Dress Code violations are shown in the table below:

# Dress Code Violations	Disciplinary Consequence
3	1 Early-Morning Detention (7-7:30 am)
4	2 Early-Morning Detentions (7-7:30 am)
5	1 Saturday-School Detention (8:00-11:00 am) Mandatory student-parent-principal meeting.
6	2 Days of ISS
7	2 Days of OSS Mandatory student-parent-principal meeting.

Additional offenses may result in possible expulsion from TCS, as we would consider the student's lack of adherence to this policy to be more symptomatic of

rebellion than forgetfulness or immaturity.

### PE Attire (7th-12th)

Appropriate athletic attire should only be worn during PE, and is not allowed upstairs or in the classroom. Attire should be modest and appropriate for class/activity. Shirts should not have large/torn out armholes allowing undergarments/chest to show. Shorts should be at least mid thigh length.

#### **Student Attendance at School Events as a Spectator**

Students in attendance at school events as a spectator, such as basketball and baseball games, should follow the heart of our dress code guidelines. As an example, tank tops, short shorts, or tight fitting clothing should not be worn to these school sponsored events.

### **Dressy Dress Code**

- Can only be worn on designated days.
- Girls: Girls may wear dresses or skirts and blouses of any color and of modest design. The following will not be permitted: halter top/spaghetti strap dresses, backless, strapless, tight fitting, plunging neckline, cleavage, or sheer clothing. No writing is permitted on the clothing. Dresses and skirts must be no more than four inches above the crease in the back of the knee. Dressy slacks and palazzo pants may also be worn of any color. Leggings may not be worn as pants, only with a dress of approved length. Depending on the event, the outfit to be worn may have to be pre-approved by administration.
- Boys: Button-up collared shirt (must be tucked in), dress slacks, tie optional, belt and dress shoes.
   No writing on the clothing.



# **Academics 2016-2017**

#### **Student: Teacher Ratios**

In order to give each student the attention that he or she needs, TCS strives to provide intimate class settings with an appropriate number of students. In grades K-3rd the ideal ratio of students per teacher should not exceed 15:1. Grades 4-8; 20:1. Grades 9-12; 24:1.

#### **Grading Scale**

The following grading system will be used at TCS.

- A 90-100
- B 80-89
- C 70-79
- D 65-69
- F Below 65
- I Incomplete

# **Advancement & Retention Policy**

If with reasonable modification and accommodation, a student remains more than one level below grade level by 5th grade or thereafter in math and/or reading or exhibits consistently failing grades in two or more core subject areas, the parent may be asked to find appropriate placement for the student other than Trinity Christian School.

**Kindergarten (K4/K5).** Careful evaluations are made of our kindergarten students pertaining to their maturity and skill accomplishments before advancement to K5 or 1<sup>St</sup> grade.

#### **Grades 1-11.** *To be promoted* .....

- from K5, student must be reading on level 2 or higher and must pass the math benchmark.
- from 1st, student must be reading on level 12 or higher and must pass the math benchmark.
- from 2nd, student must be reading on level 24 or higher and must pass the math benchmark. Student may require testing at this point.
- from 3rd, student must be reading on level 32 or higher and must pass the math benchmark.
- from 4th-8th, standardized test scores will be considered in conjunction with subject grades. Any student making an "F" for the final average in math or ELA may not be promoted. Any student making a D in math or ELA must have a combined GPA in math, ELA, science, and history of 2.0 to be promoted.
- from 9th-11th, students are required to repeat any failed semester of a course utilizing TCS' online course program at the parent's expense before receiving high school credit for that course. These credits can be made up only with counselor approval after the student has failed the course. Only two semester credits can be earned during summer school.

# **Academic Probation Policy**

Students are placed on academic probation for the following reasons:

- 1. Failing two or more subjects for any marking period, or
- 2. Failing one subject and receiving two or more D's in other subjects for any marking period, or
- 3. Earning a GPA less than 2.0 in core subjects for any marking period, or
- 4. Exhibiting a serious deterioration in academic performance as evidenced by falling grades, failure to complete homework assignments, negligence in seeking extra help, or a general indifferent attitude toward academics.

Academic probation mandates the following:

- 1. The student must strive for perfect attendance.
- 2. All homework must be done well and turned in on time.
- 3. The student must achieve at least a "C" average in core subjects for the guarter.
- 4. If the student achieves these requirements in the first quarter, he/she may remain at TCS for the next quarter, but will remain on academic probation.
- 5. If the student does not achieve these requirements, he/she will be asked to withdraw from TCS.
- 6. If the student achieves academic success in two successive quarters as stated in points 1-3, he/she will be taken off academic probation.
- 7. During academic probation, a student will not be eligible for participation in TCS extracurricular activities, such as, but not limited to, athletics, band, clubs, etc.

# **Learning Support Policies for Incoming & Current Students**

When deciding necessary accommodations and/or modifications for incoming and current students, we will take into consideration input from outside qualified sources. However, the final decision as to what accommodations and/or modifications are needed and how that will be carried out in the classroom will be left up to the TCS Learning Support staff.

Incoming students that have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) will be required to automatically enroll in TCS' Learning Lab at the beginning of the school year and maintain enrollment throughout the duration of their time as a TCS student.

Incoming students with 504 Plans will be required to enroll in TCS' Learning Lab if they are not showing satisfactory grades at the conclusion of any grading quarter.

Outside tutors will not be considered as a replacement for required enrollment in TCS' Learning Lab. All costs associated with Learning Lab enrollment will be the responsibility of the parent(s), not the school.

In all grade levels, if a student drops to a "D" at the end of any quarter in math or reading/ELA, he/she will be required to enroll in TCS Learning Support at the parent's expense. Consideration may be given to students who have an IEP or 504 and who are enrolled in TCS Learning Support. Students may also be required to receive math tutoring before or after school by TCS staff.

### **Student Progress**

In an effort to keep parents continually informed about the student progress, the following reporting procedures are used.

- 1. Parents are encouraged to use ParentsWeb to track their child's progress. ParentsWeb is an essential tool for communication with the parents. If you have not established your personal account please go to the following url: <a href="www.trinitywarriors.org/parents-web">www.trinitywarriors.org/parents-web</a> and follow instructions. If you have trouble establishing your account please contact the school office for assistance. If you do not have internet access, please communicate with the school office for other options.
- 2. Report cards will be e-mailed each nine weeks.
- 3. Parent-teacher conferences should be scheduled by emailing the teacher.
- 4. Teachers can be reached via their Trinity e-mail address, which can be viewed at <a href="https://www.trinitywarriors.org">www.trinitywarriors.org</a>.

#### **Curriculum**

Our curriculum is designed for traditional classroom teaching. It is the intent of TCS to help the student develop proper habits of study with a planned and varied program.

# **Graduation Requirements**

In order to graduate from Trinity Christian High School, 22 credits plus Bible are required. One credit of Bible are required for each year of attendance at TCS in grades 9-12.

Honors	Regular
*Bible	*Bible
4 English	4 English
3 Social Studies	3 Social Studies
4 Science	3 Science
4 Math (upper level)	4 Math
½ Physical Education	½ Physical Education
½ Health	½ Health
½ Speech	½ Speech
½ Fine Art	½ Fine Art
2 Foreign Language	6 Electives
3 Electives	
=======================================	=======================================
22 Plus Bible	22 Plus Bible

#### **Class Rank**

The following information on Class Rank, Valedictorian/Salutatorian and Honors and Fast Track classes are revisions to our previous policies and will go into effect with the freshman class of 2015-2016.

We do not rank (except to determine graduation honors of Valedictorian and Salutatorian). Class rank does not accurately communicate a student's ability in our selective, college preparatory program. Many quality colleges, universities, and scholarship programs understand this and are used to having "no ranking" for students from strong, college preparatory programs and home school students. If some communication of a student's comparison to peers is absolutely necessary, administration must give approval, and the minimal amount of information possible will be communicated to the organization (for example, saying the student falls in the top 20% is preferable if a comparison is essential).

#### **Valedictorian/Salutatorian**

A committee will screen students whose cumulative GPA qualifies for Valedictorian/Salutatorian in the determination of these ranks. Factors which will be considered in this screening are spiritual leadership and rigor in class schedule, i.e. Fast Track, Honors, College Courses. Transfer students must have received at least 12 of their high school credits from TCS during their junior and senior years.

#### **Honors & Fast Track (FT) Classes**

Students will be enrolled into honors and fast track classes when offered, based on teacher recommendation. Honors classes contain advanced work, quicker pace, and/or higher critical thinking skills development. In Math, fast track classes allow students to take the math class a year in advance compared to the norm.

#### **Transfer Credits**

One of the most important distinctives lost by our students who take classes in other programs is biblical integration. Other potential losses may include rigorous class content, biblical worldview perspective, and strong teacher interaction with personalized instruction. Students can gain educationally by retaking courses in summer school, by taking advanced college classes, or by getting electives completed to make room for more important courses the following school year. Students can lose educationally and spiritually if their core learning takes place in a secular environment, especially when less rigorous requirements are in place. The standard of a TCS diploma must be guarded with tight guidelines on students' use of outside classes.



# **Student Discipline 2016-2017**

### **General Philosophy of TCS Student Discipline**

Rules, directions, guidelines, and instructions are all an integral part of Christian education. God is a God of order (I Corinthians 14:33), mercy (Numbers 14:18), justice (I John 1:9), and love (I John 4:8). In His perfect love and by His matchless mercy, He disciplines those He loves (Hebrews 12:5-6) because He knows that proper chastisement brings about God-glorifying fruit (Hebrews 12:11). We at TCS strive for that graceful balance between order, mercy, justice, and love, because our positions of authority have been granted to us by God for raising up the next generation of Christians and instructing them in the ways of God (Romans 13:1-5). When a student's behavior counters our instruction or core values then we must immediately, effectively, directly, and lovingly correct the student as to

- 1. Stop the offense;
- 2. Prevent others from acting in a similar manner; and
- 3. Initiate change in the heart and mind of the student.

This approach will closely mimic or borrow from the principles of pure, biblical counseling (Romans 15:14, Colossians 3:16). The heart of our behavioral management plan is to move the mentality of our students <u>from</u> submitting to a system of rules and regulations <u>to</u> a lifestyle of honoring God via wise choices and voluntarily following His ways with his/her heart, mind, soul, and strength.

While enrolled at TCS, students are expected to be a good example and testimony 24/7/365 both on and off campus. The discipline policy applies to students not only on campus, on field trips, and at all school-related functions, but also outside of the school limits as well.

- TCS operates on 24/7/365 discipline policy.
- TCS reserves the right to discipline a student whose conduct both inside and outside of school is a detriment to the reputation or character of the school, which includes the use of social networking sites. Final disposition of any offense will be left to the administration.

The responsibility for discipleship lies primarily with the parents, with the school assisting them as they fulfill their God-given obligation (Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Ephesians 6:4). Discipline is primarily a parental responsibility. It is up to the parents to see to it that the students behave properly. Parents do not relinquish their responsibility to the school. Rather, the school is here to support the parents in their discipline. If the school and the home are not working together on discipline, whatever the school does will be ineffective. While we employ various methods, the responsibility for student compliance finally rests with the parents, not with the school.

# **Bullying Policy**

TCS does not tolerate bullying in our school community. Jesus tells us that the greatest commandments are to love God and love others (Matthew 22:36-40, Mark 12:29-31, Luke 10:25-28). Jesus also reminds us that people will know we are His disciples by our love for one another (John 13:34-35). A primary task of TCS is to challenge students to love. There is no room for bullying or similar actions, but rather devotion to love each other. This compels us to actively protect and support victims, strongly discipline abuse of power, and help all students and parents be a part of creating an atmosphere of care - which is free from intimidation, harassment, harm or threat.

"Bullying" means the intentional harassment, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule, defamation, or threat or incitement of violence by a student against another student or school employee by a written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that causes or creates a clear and present danger of:

- physical harm to a student or school employee or damage to the student's or school employee's property;
- substantial interference with a student's education or with a school employee's role in education;
- a hostile educational environment for one or more students or school employees due to the severity, persistence or pervasiveness of the act; or
- substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment. (Arkansas code 6-18-514)

"Electronic Act" means without limitation a communication or image transmitted by means of an electronic device, including without limitation a telephone, wireless phone or other wireless communication device, or computer.

"Harassment" means a pattern of unwelcome verbal or physical conduct relating to another person's constitutionally or statutorily protected status that causes, or reasonably should be expected to cause, substantial interference with the other's performance in the school environment.

"Substantial disruption" means without limitation that any one or more of the following occur as a result of bullying:

- Necessary cessation of instruction or educational activities;
- Inability of students or educational staff to focus on learning or function as an educational unit because of a hostile environment;
- Exhibition of other behaviors by students or educational staff that substantially interfere with the learning environment; or
- An electronic act that results in the cessation or interference of the orderly operation of the school environment.

Examples of "bullying" may include but are not limited to a pattern of behavior involving one or more of the following:

- Sarcastic "compliments" about another student's personal appearance;
- Pointed questions intended to embarrass or humiliate;
- Mocking, taunting or belittling (this may occur in the form of gossip);
- Non-verbal threats and/or intimidation such as "fronting" or "chesting" a person;
- Demeaning humor relating to a student's race, gender, ethnicity or personal characteristics;
- Blackmail, extortion, demands for protection money or other involuntary donations or loans;
- Blocking access to school property or facilities;
- Deliberate physical contact or injury to person or property;
- Stealing or hiding books or belongings; and/or
- Threats of harm to student(s), possessions, or others.

Students who engage in bullying while (a) at school, on school property, on school trips, in school vehicles, at any school function, in connection to or with any school sponsored activity or event, or while en route to or from school, or (b) by an electronic act that results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

- School employees who witness bullying or have reliable information that a pupil has been the victim of bullying, as defined in this policy and including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, shall immediately report the incident to the principal or Administration. The person or persons who file a complaint will not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.
- Students or parents who witness bullying or have reliable information that a pupil has been the victim of bullying, as defined in this policy and including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, shall report the incident to the principal or Administration as soon as possible, and never later than 24 hours after the incident (while later reports are welcome, follow up and discipline are hampered by longer time periods).
- Any student who is a victim of bullying or who witnesses bullying or has reliable information about a bullying incident will be afforded as much care and protection as reasonably possible with severe consequences for a student or parent who retaliates to the student providing the information.

The principal will be responsible to follow-up on reports to determine the need for disciplinary action. If the bullying incident is substantiated, the principal will require a meeting between the principal, alleged victim and family, and the alleged bully and family within 24 hours - with the goal of using partnership to change behavior and encourage reconciliation.

- The most likely consequence for verified bullying will be suspension and/or expulsion depending on the severity and circumstances surrounding the incident.
- Repeated instances of bullying or retaliation will result in expulsion.
- Other compensation or consequences may also be applied.

Intentional false reports intended to harm will be treated as a major offense for discipline.

# **Cyberbullying (information shared from stopbullying.gov)**

"Cyberbullying" is bullying that takes place using electronic technology. Electronic technology includes devices and equipment such as cell phones, computers, and tablets as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, personal messaging, chat, and websites.

Examples of cyberbullying include:

- mean text messages or emails;
- rumors sent by email or posted on social networking sites;
- embarrassing pictures, videos, websites, or fake profiles; or
- Any of the applicable acts as described above.

Difficulties and uniqueness of cyberbullying include:

- Cyberbullying can happen 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and reach a kid even when he or she is alone. It can happen any time of the day or night.
- Cyberbullying messages and images can be posted anonymously and distributed quickly to a very wide audience. It can be difficult and sometimes impossible to trace the source.
- Deleting inappropriate or harassing messages, texts, and pictures (from all websites and media) is extremely difficult after they have been posted or sent.

If cyberbullying occurs, please take the following steps:

- Don't respond to and don't forward cyberbullying messages.
- Keep evidence of cyberbullying. Record the dates, times, and descriptions of instances when cyberbullying has occurred. Save and print screenshots, emails, and text messages.
- Block the person who is cyberbullying.
- Report the incident and provide the evidence to the school principal.

Consequences for cyberbullying are the same as for regular or person-person bullying.

#### **Expectations of TCS Students**

The school seeks to instill the following characteristics in our students:

- Cheerful obedience to authority
- Responsibility in doing assigned tasks
- Cooperation with others within and outside the classroom
- Courtesy and respect of others
- Cleanliness of person and property
- Truthfulness and honesty in work and life
- Respect for property that belongs to others
- Promptness in attendance and assignments
- Morally good conduct in respect to recreation, social relationships, and language

When behavior contrary to these characteristics is displayed, consequences are given.

- In grades K-6, the teacher will supply a list of classroom rules and consequences at the beginning of the year.
- The following is a non-comprehensive listing of what is considered minor and major violations in grades 7-12.

#### **Sexual Conduct Statement**

The biblical and philosophical goal of TCS is to develop students into mature, Christ-like individuals who will be able to exhibit a Christ-like life. While enrolled at TCS, all students are expected to exhibit the qualities of a Christ-like life and to refrain from certain activities or behavior. TCS retains the right to refuse enrollment to or to expel any student who engages in sexual immorality, including any student who professes to be homosexual/bisexual or is practicing homosexual/bisexual behavior. Additionally, any student who condones, supports, or promotes such practices may not be permitted to attend TCS.

#### **Prohibited Articles**

Alcoholic beverages, drugs, lighters, guns, knives, weapons, or tobacco products are not permitted in the building. This also includes imitation or fake objects intended to look like one of these listed above. Over-the-counter or prescription medications are to be in the possession of the school nurse.

MP3 players, IPods, cd players, cds, other electronic devices, books, and magazines not related to classroom work are only permitted after school hours as long as they are appropriate.

#### **Consequences for Behavioral Violations**

Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. (Hebrews 12:11, NKJV)

**Corporal Punishment.** TCS does not administer corporal punishment. However a parent may be allowed to administer corporal punishment to his/her child on TCS premises.

**Detention.** Detentions occur from 7:00-7:30 am. The student's account will be charged a fee of \$5 to cover the cost of the supervision. If the detention is missed, the student will serve two detentions. If a student is late, an additional detention may be served.

**Saturday School.** Saturday School will be served 8:00am-11:00am on the Saturday assigned by the Student Services Office (SSO). The student's account will be charged a fee of \$40 to cover the cost of supervision. If Saturday School is missed, the student will serve two Saturday Schools. If a student is late, an additional Saturday School will be served.

**In-School Suspension (ISS).** This is a suspension that is served on the school grounds, in a classroom by themselves (with supervision). In general, the minimum ISS served is two days. The student is to report to the SSO office at 8:00 am. The student needs to bring his/her own lunch. They will not participate in any class activities, athletic events, lunch/chapel, or other school-related activities. The student's account will be charged a fee of \$65 per day to cover the cost of the supervision.

**Out-Of School Suspension (OSS).** A student may receive a one to five-day suspension. A student is not allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities during the time they are serving suspension. The student is expected to make up all work missed because of the suspension. The assignments are due the day the student returns. The only exceptions would be quizzes/tests missed while serving the suspension, or an assignment based on material that could have only been received had the student been in class.

The student must take all quizzes and tests that are occurring on the day returning to school. It is his/her responsibility to be ready for the assessment. If a student misses a quiz/test because of a suspension, the test must be made up the day he/she returns to school at a time convenient for the teacher and is least disruptive to core academic classes (7:30 am, lunch, study hall, athletic practice, PE, or after school). The student should not miss an additional day of class making up work missed while being suspended.

Upon return to school, the student will meet with the Principal for a **Restoration Conference**. Biblical principles not only teach consequences for our wrong doings, but also restoration. At this conference the Principal will verify that the student has the needed materials to reenter classes successfully, make sure that a corrective plan of action is in place for the inappropriate behavior, and reassure the student that although consequences were necessary, forgiveness and restoration is theirs to receive.

**Expulsion.** Any expelled student will be dismissed from the school system for the remainder of the current school year. Students may be considered for re-enrollment following a full year (365 days) of expulsion. This will be determined by recommendation from the administration to the school board.

#### **Consequences for Behavioral Violations of Students in Grades K5-6**

When an elementary student has exceeded the allowable violations in the classroom, the teacher will send the student to the office. The following is the course of action for habitual minor offenses. Major offenses will be dealt with according to the severity and nature of the offense.

1st office visit	<ul> <li>RenWeb Report and/or parent contact.</li> <li>Student conference with administration.</li> <li>Warning/appropriate consequence.</li> </ul>
2nd office visit	<ul><li>Parent contact.</li><li>Student conference with administration.</li><li>Appropriate consequence.</li></ul>
3rd office visit	<ul><li>Parent contact.</li><li>Parent conference with administration.</li><li>ISS or student sent home.</li></ul>
4th office visit	Eligible for ISS or OSS.
5th office visit	Eligible for expulsion.

Additional consequences may include, but are not limited to:

- Privileges suspended
- Loss of free time/recess
- Detention (at lunch, before school, or after school)
- Restitution (materially, verbally, and/or written)
- Assigned projects such as writing, clean-up duty, assisting staff, or deeds of kindness

If an elementary student intentionally harms another student or acts with blatant disrespect toward a teacher, the student will be sent home for the remainder of the day. If the offense occurs after lunch, the student may also be required to stay home the following day.

#### **Chewing Gum & Food**

There is nothing anti-biblical about chewing gum. There is something destructive about what chewing gum does to classroom flooring, desks, and the overall classroom environment, when it is disposed of in an inappropriate manner. Therefore, we do not allow students to chew gum in their classrooms, hallways, or upstairs. This also applies for consuming food and/or drinks at the inappropriate times in classes or in the hallways.

Consequences for Chewing Gum / Food violations are shown in the table below:

# Chewing Gum/Food Violations	Disciplinary Consequence
3	1 Early-Morning Detention (7-7:30 am)
4	2 Early-Morning Detentions (7-7:30 am)
	1 Saturday-School Detention (8:00-11:00 am)
5	Mandatory student-parent-principal meeting.
6	2 Days of ISS
	2 Days of OSS
7	Mandatory student-parent-principal meeting.

Additional offenses may result in possible expulsion from TCS, as we would consider the student's lack of adherence to this policy to be more symptomatic of rebellion than forgetfulness or immaturity.

# **Consequences for Behavioral Violations of Students in Grades 7-12**

The minimum and maximum consequences are given as a guideline. The administration will determine the specific consequence, taking in consideration the severity of the violation and the number of cumulative offenses (not just for that one rule). Repeat and habitual offenders will be placed on Behavioral Probation, which could ultimately result in expulsion. The minimum and maximum consequences are given as a guideline. The administration will determine the specific consequence

**Minor Violations.** Include, but are not limited to:

- Minor classroom disruptions
- Littering, disrespect of property/facilities
- Horseplay
- Unkindness (not deemed bullying)
- Entry into unauthorized areas of the building/property
- Other similar inappropriate behaviors

#### **Consequences May Include:**

RenWeb Report

Warning

Parent Contact

Saturday School

Other Appropriate Measures

**Major Violations.** Include, but are not limited to:

Habitual minor Violations

Cheating

Theft

Vandalism

Unsafe driving or or near campus

Fighting, threatening behavior

Dishonesty, deceitful behavior

Extracurricular Misconduct

Truancy, skipping class

Public displays of affection

Other similar inappropriate behaviors

#### **Consequences May Include:**

RenWeb Report

Parent Contact Saturday School

ISS / OSS Expulsion

Other Appropriate Measures

**Severe Violations.** Include, but are not limited to:

Bullying

Sexual misconduct

 Possession of prohibited substances, firearms/weapons, obscene materials or occult materials/paraphernalia.

#### **Consequences May Include:**

RenWeb Report
Parent Contact

ISS / OSS Expulsion

Notification of Authorities Other Appropriate Measures

Note: TCS reserves the right to search anything brought on school property.

### **Behavioral Probation Policy**

A student may be placed on behavioral probation for any pattern of irresponsible behavior which may reflect an attitude of hard-heartedness or unrepentance. The time period of behavioral probation will be up to the discretion of the Advisory Team, and will be commensurate with the seriousness of the offense(s).

There are two levels of behavioral probation.

- Level 1 probation is the lower level and is considered the "warning" level. While on Level 1 probation, the student may continue to participate in athletics and other extracurricular activities. If, however, a student commits another offense while on Level 1 probation, the student will either be expelled or moved to Level 2 probation. Once removed from Level 1 probation, if the student commits another offense, the student will go straight to Level 2 probation.
- While on Level 2 probation, the student may not participate in any TCS extracurricular activities. This also means the student may not represent the school in any public contact, contests, meetings, activities with other schools or the general public, extracurricular activities, or public events such as sports or drama performances. The Advisory Team reserves the right to place a student directly on Level 2 probation without having first placed the student on Level 1 probation. Further offenses during Level 2 probation will result in a recommendation for expulsion or encouragement to seek education elsewhere.

At the end of any probationary period, the Advisory Team, after counsel with the student, his/her teachers, and his/her parents, may take further action including the following options: an additional probationary period if some promising change is evident, expulsion from school, or lifting of probation and restoration to full, responsible membership in the body.

# **Student Incompatibility**

The Trinity Christian School System is a ministry and will try to meet the needs of any student; however, it is not necessarily a school for every student. Students who have had prior discipline problems at TCS or another school, who are married, or who are parents are not eligible for enrollment in or attendance at TCS.



# Media & Technology 2016-2017

#### **General Philosophy Regarding the Use of Electronic Devices**

Let your eyes look straight ahead, and your eyelids look right before you. Ponder the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established. Do not turn to the right or the left; remove your foot from evil. (Proverbs 4:25-27, NKJV)

We desire to maintain a godly academic atmosphere. Electronic devices, such as cell phones, help us to connect with one another and access beneficial information. As with all technology, cell phones and other personal devices can also be used for purposes that are not appropriate or honoring to the Lord. It is the goal of Trinity Christian School to prepare students to utilize proper wisdom and discernment in the use of mobile devices.

#### **Library/Media Program**

The primary purpose of the library is to expose students to all types of media, to teach library skills, to reinforce skills taught in the classroom, to provide supplementary materials for class work, and to teach independence in the use of a variety of media. Each student will have frequent opportunities to use the library as a resource in his or her academic endeavors. Library books may be checked out. A fine of ten cents per day will be charged for books not returned on the due date. The student is responsible for any lost or damaged books. Progress reports and/or report cards may be withheld until late book fees are paid.

As agreed to in the TCS application, students are allowed to access computers and the Internet so they can gain valuable information from thousands of databases, libraries, and bulletin boards. However, the Internet can also be a dangerous place with material that is illegal, inaccurate, and offensive. TCS monitors students and uses filters and other tools to help ensure that students can safely use these resources; however, these safeguards cannot prevent all questionable material. Students are required to use the computer and Internet only for activities that are educational and constructive. It is a privilege, NOT a right. Inappropriate use of the Internet, computers, computer systems, computer networks, or software may result in disciplinary or legal action.

# Tablets, Kindles, & Personal Computers

Students are allowed to bring a computing device(s) (ipad, laptop, tablet, kindle, etc) to school for educational purposes (taking notes, writing papers, reading, etc.) only. Students who bring such devices to school do so at their own risk. In order to use personal computing devices at TCS, students must complete the TCS Computing Device permission slip available from the SSO office.

At this time wifi service is not available through the school unless it serves to meet accommodation plans verified by medical professionals.

Students using computing devices for purposes other than education can lose their privilege temporarily or permanently. This includes using personal computing devices for social media and/or communicating via iMessage, Kik, Whatsapp, or other such applications during class time.

#### **Cell Phones (including So-Called "Phablets")**

TCS is not responsible for phones that are lost, stolen, or damaged while on TCS property or on a TCS-sponsored trip.

**Students in Grades K-6.** Students in grades K-6 are not permitted to use cell phones during school hours between 7:50 am - 3:15 pm. Personal cell phones should be turned off and stored out of sight. They are not to be used in classes for reading, as a calculator, or even checking the time. If parents need to reach their child during the school day, they can contact the School office.

**Students in Grades 7-12.** Students in grades 7-12 are permitted to bring electronic devices to school, but they are not to be used during class time, chapel, or small group discipleship meetings. (On a side note: students will need to bring a personal Bible to school.) Students in grades 7-12 may use their personal cell phones before school, in between classes, during lunch, and after school. Every classroom will have a visible wall hanging for students to put their cell phones in assigned slots. Students are required to place their cell phones into their assigned slot as they enter a classroom and take it when they leave. Cell phones should be turned off or set to silent (not set to vibrate) during class time. Exceptions to this policy may occur when a staff member grants permission to use a device for instructional purposes.

Headphones/ear buds are not to be used on campus, as we want to encourage interaction among students (exceptions include PE/athletic activities and longer bus rides for field trips).

#### **Consequences for Cell Phone Violations**

If a student uses a personal cell phone device during an inappropriate time during the school day, the cell phone will be confiscated for the remainder of the day and the student will be assigned a disciplinary consequence as charted below:

# Cell Phone Violations	Disciplinary Consequence
1	Phone confiscated for the remainder of the day, and the student will serve 1 Saturday-School detention.
2	Phone confiscated for the remainder of the day, and the student will serve 2 days of ISS.
3	Phone confiscated for the remainder of the day, mandatory student-parent-principal meeting, and the student will serve 2 days of OSS.

Additional offenses may result in possible expulsion from TCS, as we would consider the student's lack of adherence to this policy to be more symptomatic of rebellion than forgetfulness or immaturity.

#### **iWatches (& Similar Devices)**

Watches which are synched with cell phones are/or social media accounts may be worn at TCS. However, if a student allows their iWatch (or similar device) to be a distraction during class time, then he/she will be instructed to turn the device off or to "airplane" mode.

#### **Videoing & Photographing**

Students may not film, record, or post any aspect of TCS life (spiritual, academic or social) on social media without prior written permission from school administration. Students may not post a photo or video of a student or staff member without that person's permission. No audio or video recording is permitted in bathrooms or locker rooms under any circumstances.

#### **Inappropriate Use**

Postings of students on social networking, Internet sites or through other means of communications (i.e. text messaging or posting pictures) – which engage in inappropriate behavior (such as drinking, smoking, sexual actions, use of foul language, etc.), using inappropriate language, or promoting illicit activity – are prohibited.

Using social networking sites at any time to disparage or be disrespectful to members of the TCS community may be subject to disciplinary actions. Students are expected to cooperate in investigations by providing access to such sites. The school reserves the right to randomly check all social media and electronic communications.

#### **Student Likeness**

TCS may place student photos and information on the school's website and other media related instruments without parental permission.

# **School Name & Logo**

The school name and logo may not be used without the written permission of the Head of School.



# General TCS Community & Classroom Policies 2016-2017

#### **Parent Involvement**

It is the desire of TCS for parents to be involved in the educational process of our students. The administration and faculty oversee school programs and projects that promote TCS and education. We encourage parents to assist the school with the planned events. Parents who visit the school campus or serve as chaperones on field trips are asked to conform to the same code of conduct and modesty guidelines as required of students.

#### **School Holidays & Gift Deliveries**

Because of our biblical view concerning particular holidays, the following guidelines are in effect:

- 1. During the Christmas season, our instructional emphasis will be completely on the birth of Christ and the biblical account of the Christmas story.
- 2. During the Easter season, our emphasis is completely on the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.
- 3. Halloween is not observed as a holiday at TCS.
- 4. In order to minimize classroom disruptions and security issues, school deliveries such as flowers, gifts, food, balloons, baskets, etc. will be kept in the Central Office until dismissal bell.

#### **Student Birthday Parties (K5-6th)**

If you would like to bring a treat for all the students in the class to celebrate your child's birthday, please contact your teacher to make arrangements. ABSOLUTELY NO birthday invitations are to be distributed at school UNLESS all classmates are invited.

#### **School Visits**

In the interest of the education and safety of students, all parents and visitors should leave the building by 8:00 am. If parents wish to visit a class, they must have prior approval of the administration. Parents and visitors entering the building for any reason must enter the designated entrance and sign in through the office. To insure a safe environment, TCS must be aware at all times those who enter the building.

Students who wish to shadow a student enrolled at TCS may do so only at the invitation and with permission of the administration.

In the case of child custody issues, a copy of custody papers is required by the school (when applicable) to ensure that the school contacts the person who has legal custody of the student concerning school matters, including release of records and authorized student check out.

#### **Unattended Children**

Children not enrolled at TCS must be under CLOSE SUPERVISION and kept quiet by parents or guardians at all times while on school grounds. Children will not be allowed to have free access to school facilities while school is in progress. Children not enrolled at TCS are not allowed to attend school field trips as a general rule; however, arrangements may be made with the teacher in charge. Parents having gained prior approval through the teacher for the child to attend the field trip must assume all responsibility for the child during the field trip. Final approval is at the discretion of the administration and faculty member.

#### **Parent-Teacher Conferences**

The school is an extension of the Christian home. TCS recognizes the importance of the home and school working together to insure the spiritual and academic growth of the child. We ask that parents email the teacher directly to arrange a parent-teacher conference. Teachers may be contacted directly via their TCS e-mail address. E-mail addresses are listed at <a href="https://www.trinitywarriors.org">www.trinitywarriors.org</a>.

#### **Lunch Program**

Lunch deliveries from an outside food establishment are not allowed at any grade level. Parents may bring food they have pre-purchased for their student at the student's designated lunch period.

Lunches are billed monthly.

Parents and family members who wish to order a lunch tray for themselves must arrange through their child's teacher by 8:30 am. The teacher issues a lunch count at the beginning of each day to the office in order for the cafeteria to prepare enough food for every lunch period.

Any lunch visitor, other than family members, must be pre-approved through the office.

#### **Second Chance Breakfast**

In our best efforts to meet the needs of our students, we practice a second chance breakfast for grades K-12. Students are allowed to bring a snack from home (vending machines are not accessible to students) as a mid-morning "hold me over." We believe this allows our students to perform at their best mentally and behaviorally. The snack is to be eaten in the classroom in a five-minute time frame, so we have provided guidelines for what is considered a good snack choice. As you will notice, the snacks that are listed are quick, easy to clean up, and non-sugary (please check your ingredient list to make sure sugar is not the primary ingredient). Elementary teachers may have additional guidelines they will explain. The following are acceptable snacks:

#### Drink

Water only, no flavorings (clear bottle with leak-proof lid)

#### Snacks

- Jerky
- String Cheese
- Nuts
- Dried fruit
- Whole or sliced apple
- Grapes
- Celery and peanut butter
- Yogurt cup
- Peanut butter or cheese sandwich crackers
- Breakfast bars

#### **Grievance Policy**

The TCS grievance policy is written in the spirit of Romans 12:18 which reads, "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone." The TCS community must work together to effectively train the children God has entrusted to us. We can do this best by maintaining peaceful and respectful communications and relationships. Please follow the steps given below in expressing your concerns. We ask that you exercise humility and confidentiality throughout the process, as will all staff members.

**Preschool.** If your child is in preschool, please take your concern to your child's teacher. If resolution is not reached, the teacher will arrange a meeting with you, the teacher, and the Preschool Director. If resolution is still not reached, the Preschool Director will arrange a meeting for you with her and the Head of Academics and Student Life.

**Grades K-12 Classroom.** If you, as a parent or guardian, have a concern regarding your child's school day, please take that concern directly to your child's teacher. The teacher will strive to resolve your issue and follow up with you the next week to confirm resolution. If you are still experiencing concerns, the teacher will arrange a meeting with you, the teacher, and the K12 Dean. If resolution is not reached, the issue will be taken to the Head of Academics and Student Life.

**Athletics.** If you have a concern regarding your child's athletics, please take that concern directly to your child's coach. The coach will strive to resolve your issue and then follow up with you the next week to confirm resolution. If you are still experiencing concerns, the coach will arrange for you to meet with the coach and the Athletic Director. If, after meeting with the athletic director, you still have concerns, the athletic director will arrange a meeting for you with him and the Head of Academics and Student Life.

**General.** If you have a concern regarding the general operation of the school, please take your concern to the Head of Academics and Student Life (Dr. Bartel). If your concern remains, a meeting will be arranged with the President and Head of School (Dr. Fellers).

#### Chain of Command.

- Classroom Teacher
- Applicable Preschool Director / Principal / Coach
- Head of Academics and Student Life
- resident and Head of School

## **School-Sponsored Trips**

We expect to have several field trips throughout the year. Before each field trip, students must have a permission slip signed by a parent or guardian. Students choosing not to attend a class field trip will be counted as absent. The same standards of conduct and dress code that are required of students at school are also required on school-sponsored activities.

**Parent Chaperones.** There are times during the year when parents may be asked to serve as chaperones. When parents serve as chaperones, the school requires parents to dress modestly and to follow the same standards of conduct as required of students.



# **Athletics 2016-2017**

#### **General Athletic Eligibility Requirements**

Student-athletes participating in athletics must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Student athletes must maintain a 2.0 GPA or higher in core courses (Arkansas Activities Association requirement).
- If a student athlete is failing or has failed a course, he/she is placed on probation until improvement in the relevant subject is noted by the instructor and approved by the athletic director.
- A study area will be provided to the student-athlete during practice time to allow the student-athlete additional study time.

A student-athlete may satisfy requirements for eligibility by successfully retaking failed courses during summer school.

**School Suspension.** A student-athlete who has been placed on school suspension will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities until after his/her time or days have been completed. This includes practices, games, meets, contests, etc.

Student-athletes must have a full day of classroom attendance on game days. If a game falls on a Saturday or school holiday, then the student-athlete must have a full day of attendance on the day before the game. The student-athlete must also be at school the day following a competition or will not be allowed to participate in the next scheduled event. The Athletic Director must be made aware of pre-arranged conflicts, such as medical appointments, scheduled on game days. Any unavoidable absences (partial or full day) on the day of an athletic event (or the prior day of a Saturday/holiday event) or the day following an event must be approved by the Athletic Director and administration before the athlete can participate in that event or the next event.

The Principal and Athletic Director will monitor grades and academic items relating to eligibility requirements weekly, and collaborate with teachers on progress and improvement plans. The Athletic Director will be responsible for communicating to parents any academic eligibility concerns and ensuring ineligible students are not participating.

#### **Statement of Cooperation**

Honor Code · Parent Communication and Support · Discipline · Family Handbook · Faith · Support · Non-discrimination · Trips and Activities · Release of Liability · Student's Likeness · Internet Use

All students and their parents are required to sign the following statement of cooperation at the time of initial registration. By signing, you and your family are indicating your commitment to support the standards set forth by Trinity Christian School. **There are no addendums to this form/agreement.** 

I/We understand the education of our child is a joint venture of family and school. When concerns or questions arise, I/we will take our opinions, concerns and comments about the school's programs or employees to the appropriate party as outlined in the grievance policy. Discussions with my children or other parents that are critical of the school or its programs/employees are not appropriate and only lead to divisiveness. Those who engage in insulting or abusive behavior or display a conspicuously uncooperative or destructive attitude toward the school or its programs/employees, including on social media, will not be tolerated and their actions will lead to the cancellation of the student's contract.

I/We understand that Trinity Christian School takes an open stand for the Lord Jesus Christ and encourages students to grow in their walk with Him. Trinity is a community of individuals committed to a love of God and one another. I/We realize that the standards set forth by Trinity Christian School have been established for our best interest and the best interest of the entire school community. Therefore, I/we understand that if I/we violate any of the standards set forth by TCS, I/we bring disciplinary actions upon ourselves. I/We agree to follow the discipline policy as set forth by Trinity Christian School and hereby agree to authorize TCS to administer such discipline, as is wise and expedient for our child. I/We further agree to cooperate with TCS by administering discipline at home as needed.

Trinity Christian School system admits students of any race, color, or national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

I/We have read the <u>Baptist Faith and Message</u>, the non-discriminatory acceptance policy above, the <u>Family Handbook</u>, the <u>internet use policy</u>, and the <u>philosophy of education</u>. I/We agree to support the mission, philosophy, statement of faith, and standards set forth by Trinity Christian Schools. I/We understand that if the student violates the rules, disciplinary measures may follow.

I/We grant permission for my student to attend all school sponsored trips and activities throughout each school year unless I/we request in writing, non-participation in an event. I/We also understand that signing this application releases Trinity Christian School and its staff /chaperones from any liability due to accident or injury. I/We give permission for my child to use the internet. I/We also understand that my child's likeness may be photographed, videotaped, or recorded by the school in the course of the school activities. I/We give consent for the school to use my child's likeness and information in promotional and/or advertising materials, including the internet.

All new students are accepted on a trial basis for the first grading period, and the school reserves the right to transfer students to the grade level at which they are actually performing. The school also reserves the right to release students on the basis of poor conduct.

In the event of an emergency, I give TCS permission to transport my child to an alternate location.

This form shall remain in effect for this school year and all subsequent school years that the student attends TCS.		
Student Name (Printed):	Grade:	
Student Signature:	Date:	
Parent/Guardian Signature:	Date:	